

# "OUT & ABOUT"



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## **Commanding Officer's Notes**

### **TRAINING IN CATTERICK**

Having recovered from Operations in Iraq in Jun 08 and then recuperated during the latter half of last year, the focus for 2009 was all about training, initially in our primary role (CR2 and CVR(T)) Jan-Jul 09 and then in our secondary role (still TBC) Aug-Dec 09.

The headlines for the first half of 2009 included Gunnery Camp and BATUS – more of which later – but first we needed to re-familiarise ourselves with CR2 and CVR(T), having spent the past 18 months on different platforms. And so Jan and Feb 09 were filled with basic and very low-level training events, principally on Catterick Training Area (CTA). On the one hand this was extremely useful as CTA is literally right next door to our back gate and the opportunity to conduct the basics (hides, replens etc) was very valuable. However, on the other hand crews are sadly not able to manoeuvre freely across CTA as all tracked vehicles have to remain on the single 'tank driver training route'. Therefore, genuine tank manoeuvre – as the majority of us were lucky enough to grow up with – would have to wait until BATUS. Nevertheless, the opportunity to train – both mounted and dismounted – so close to home is very welcome.

### **GUNNERY CAMP**

The majority of you will be used to deploying on Gunnery Camp – probably to Hohne – as a complete Regiment with a full fleet of vehicles. Well our experience in Mar-Apr 09 was very different. We deployed to Castlemartin, Wales for 4 weeks with only a handful of vehicles. Under Whole Fleet Management (WFM) the Regiment holds 15 x CR2 and 14 x CVR(T), and it was with these vehicles that we travelled to Pembrokeshire in early March to conduct Annual Firing. And yet despite the frictions of, for example, A and B Squadrons sharing 15 x CR2 between them or D Squadron missing 4½ firing days due to the fog, the Regiment shot extremely well and received the following comment in our Firing Report: *"overall this was a strong technical gunnery performance, certainly one of the best we have seen"*.

Moreover, we had not a little fun along the way. For instance, on the middle (changeover) weekend the entire Regiment celebrated Oates with skits, a parade and a regimental photo. Additionally Paddy's Day was held down at Castlemartin in the usual manner, and there were plentiful nights-out 'down-town' in Pembroke. And, as ever, SQMSs were making a killing on the ranges selling burgers and bacon 'sarnies'; and in that respect this Gunnery Camp was exactly the same as you will remember!

### **BATUS**

Immediately following Easter Leave the majority of the Regiment departed for Canada, once again for a training event quite unlike any other previously encountered, but one which was enormously rewarding. The plan for BATUS saw four Battlegroups (BGs) deploying onto the Prairie during a 3 month period. RDG BG (incl POW, A & B Sqns) and 1 LANCS BG (incl C Sqn) would deploy on Ex Med Man 1 (MM1), and QRL BG and 1 SG BG (incl D Sqn) on MM2.

Significant sums have been spent on BATUS to give it a more contemporary feel and one more attuned to the hybrid threats we currently face. For example, there are now numerous

villages dotted around the Prairie thereby better facilitating judgemental shooting, Key Leader Engagement (KLE), C-IED and IDF drills etc. And yet despite having to generate (within 4 Mech Bde) our own OPFOR and indeed 'share' the Prairie with another BG, MM1 was without doubt the most challenging, rewarding and, importantly, relevant BATUS I have encountered. This was the first Med Man the Regiment had conducted for many years that had not been preceded by a period of field training in Poland or Salisbury Plain, but despite this the Regimental Battlegroup performed magnificently. Moreover, the exercise construct was such that over 320 members of the BG got to spend 4 days in the Rockies either riding, parachuting, canoeing, climbing or rafting, as well as many who 'took to the road' and experienced the delights of Northern America.

### **WIDER REGIMENTAL LIFE**

But it has not been 'all work and no play...'. In addition to celebrating Paddy's Day and Oates in Castlemartin, and the majority of the Regiment conducting adventurous training in the Rockies, there has been time for other non-work related events, principally sport.

This year's Hodson's Horse clashed with Gunnery Camp in Castlemartin, nevertheless the Regiment still entered teams in every event. We won the football and were placed high enough in all the other events to come 2<sup>nd</sup> overall, just behind 9<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> Royal Lancers. Another major sporting achievement saw us being crowned as the 2 Div Hockey Champions, beating AFC Harrogate in the final; sadly, commitments meant we could not compete in the Army Cup Semi-Finals (we received 1 day's notice). Finally on the sporting front, the football team has enjoyed a very good season. In addition to winning the Hodson's Horse football competition the Regimental team performed admirably in the Cavalry Cup (losing (just) in the semi-final). For the first time in ages we now have a team consisting solely of young Troopers and Craftsmen, 3 of which have been selected to play for the Army U21.

Finally on wider Regimental life, the Regiment hosted a farewell visit by John and Ness Etherington, our former Regimental Secretary and his wife. The visit consisted of 2 parts. First, there was a dinner in the Officers' Mess which was attended by every former Commanding Officer and Colonel of the Regiment (and their wives) during John's long and distinguished tenure as Regimental Secretary. It was a very special evening and the fact that every person who was invited actually attended speaks volumes for the esteem John and Ness are held in. And second, the serving Regiment showed its appreciation by presenting John with the Regimental Medal. Again, there was a wonderful turn-out and one could see the clearly visible reaction on the young Troopers' faces during the reading of John's citation as they realised how much this wonderful man had contributed to the Regiment during the past 50 years.

### **MANNING**

Now that we have been back in the UK for about 8 months we are experiencing a slight increase in Notice to Terminates (NTT), much as we did following our move to Tidworth in 1997. It is therefore heartening to report that the RDG manning situation is moving slowly in the right direction: we are currently -22 set against an establishment of 405 RDG soldiers. One encouraging factor is the number of soldiers who have decided to rejoin the Regiment in the past few months (7 to date) and with any luck more will rejoin us soon. Perhaps I can ask those of you with friends who have expressed an interest in possibly rejoining the Regiment to contact the Adjutant (officers) or RCMO (soldiers) to pass on the relevant details.

Our efforts to enlist soldiers from within our local recruiting areas continue. All Squadrons have now forged firm links with their affiliated ACFs, as well as conducted some form of recruiting-based activity within their allocated area. Regrettably our positive recruiting efforts over the past few years have resulted in the recruiting grounds of South Yorkshire and East Riding being handed back to the Light Dragoons thereby concluding a short-term agreement that was established back in 1995. On a positive note however we should begin to see a surge in recruits from Northern Ireland in the coming years to offset this loss.

## WHAT NEXT?

The Regiment will deploy on Leave for 3 weeks in August and then commence Mission Specific Training (MST) on 1 Sep 09 ahead of a possible deployment to Afghanistan in 2010. I say 'possible' deployment because the ORBAT for Ops next year is still unclear and will probably remain that way for a while yet. What is clear is that HQ 4 Mech Bde will deploy to Afghanistan next year in command of force elements both from within and out with the brigade, and as there are currently planned to be a significant number of the latter there is a reasonable chance that there will be some Regts/Bns within 4 Mech Bde who will not deploy on HERRICK in 2010. It is too early to predict which units will remain behind, but as a Regiment we must face-up to the following 2 facts: first, no Armoured Regiment has ever deployed on Op HERRICK; and second, now that Ops in Iraq have all but drawn to a close there are 36 Infantry Battalions available for Ops in Afghanistan (39 if you include the 3 x Cdo Regts). Nevertheless, The Royal Dragoon Guards will send at least a sub-unit (equipped with Viking) to Afghanistan in 2010, and we are doing our best to influence decisions such that significantly more of us get the opportunity to deploy there next year.

## CHARITY

A plea on behalf of the Regimental Association, if I may. The majority of those who seek sponsorship for a particular charity currently favour Help for Heroes (H4H). I'm told H4H is doing exceptionally well – and quite right too – however, can I remind you that charity begins at home! Therefore, can I respectfully ask that those of you who are good enough to raise money for these wonderful causes just bear in mind that the Regimental Association is our charity and could really do with your help. Should you feel that you could support the Regimental Association then please contact Maj (Retd) Peter May at Home Headquarters.

## Regimental Secretary's Notes

I would like to begin by thanking all those who sent letters emails and telephoned me wishing me luck with this new job, my first (and very probably my last if it all goes well) since leaving the army in April this year.

I inherited a HHQ that is head and shoulders above many I have subsequently come across in terms of what they deliver to the association and the serving regiment. I will strive to continue that trend and would very much like to receive any feedback good and bad that will help us here in York to keep up to date in these fast moving and ever changing times that we find ourselves in. Apart from my appointment, the only other movement in the headquarters is the retirement of the museum assistant Trevor and as this goes to press we are recruiting for an upgraded post of museum assistant, the equivalent of an assistant curator outside the MoD. Mark and Linda remain in the admin office, bailing me out of trouble while Alan drives the welfare, museum and forum desk. In addition his planning and execution of trips to Normandy on the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D Day will be a highlight in the notes from HHQ in the next journal.

A point worth remembering is that HHQ is here for both serving and retired members of the regiment and their families. For those of you who are still serving and not made the move to civvie street, when you do you will find the resettlement service is second to none. Once you are out, there is quite a lot we can do to assist with that move, there is always somebody in the association of 4800 members that will be in a position to advise at the very least, networking at its best! So please ask.

## WELFARE

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Post Traumatic Stress Disorder</u></b></p> <p>Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is not new but the current conflicts have highlighted the condition, which serves to remind everyone that it can manifest itself at any stage and at any age. The psychological reactions to trauma are complex and different people react differently to situations. Whatever the symptoms may be, the best advice is don't suffer in silence. Treatments are effective, particularly when started sooner rather than later. If you think you need help, or someone you trust suggests you need help, get it.</p> <p><b>Veterans with mental health concerns should contact the Medical Assessment programme on 0800 1695401 or email <a href="mailto:map@gstt.nhs.uk">map@gstt.nhs.uk</a></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Getting on the Property Ladder</u></b></p> <p>For many, leaving the Services and buying a home may be a daunting prospect. The MOD is working closely with the Department for Communities and Local Government to support personnel when they are making this significant financial commitment. Service Personnel (with 6 years service or more) have priorities status with all 'key worker' schemes in England – a parallel scheme is run in Scotland. Wales are committed to introducing provision with their new affordable home scheme to be launched soon. Since July 2008, personnel are now able to carry 'priority status' into civilian life for up to 12 months after leaving Services.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA - What is an LPA?)</u></b></p> <p>An LPA is a powerful legal document that allows someone they trust now (the Attorney) to make decisions on their behalf at a time in the future when they no longer wish to or are able to make those decisions themselves.</p> <p><b>There are Two Types of LPA:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Property and Affairs LPA – allows a Donor to appoint an Attorney to make decisions about the management of their finance and property, for example paying bills or selling a property on their behalf.</li> <li>• A Personal Welfare LPA – gives a Donor the opportunity to appoint an Attorney to make decisions about their personal welfare, including healthcare and medical treatment.</li> </ul> <p><b>When can an LPA be used?</b></p> <p>A Property and Affairs LPA can be used when the Donor still has capacity to make decisions, or when the Donor has lost capacity. A Personal Welfare LPA can only be used when the Donor has lost capacity. Furthermore, the LPA must be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) before it can be used.</p> <p><a href="http://www.publicguardian.gov.uk">www.publicguardian.gov.uk</a>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>The Chelsea Pensioners' Appeal</u></b></p> <p>In March of this year, HRH The Prince of Wales formerly opened the Margaret Thatcher Infirmary at The Royal Hospital Chelsea (RHC), enabling it to continue offering support for future generations of male and female soldiers. The new infirmary provides state of the art rooms and a significant physiotherapy capability, including one of only three hydro pools in London. It will provide support for around 300 Chelsea Pensioners (In-Pensioners) who live at RHC, should they become infirm and require care.</p> <p>In-Pensioners join at any age over 65 when they are healthy and able to participate in the full and rich life of the Royal Hospital. The average age of the In-Pensioners is 84. There is no direct admission to the Infirmary.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>What's next?</b></p> <p>The second phase of the upgrade will commence sometime this year, when the emphasis shifts to renovating the historic Long Wards (where the majority of In-Pensioners live) providing for the first time en-suite facilities.</p> <p>For more information about how a veteran can become a Chelsea Pensioner, call <b>0207 881 5204</b> or visit <a href="http://www.chelsea-pensioners.co.uk">www.chelsea-pensioners.co.uk</a>.</p>

### **Why get a new Motability Car?**

With the current economic situation, most people are keeping a careful eye on their finances – so getting a great deal on a new car is important. Leasing a car from Motability means you don't have the worries that can come with buying a second-hand car and it takes away all the responsibilities that come with owning a new one.

If you have any questions please contact your Motability dealer or the Motability Powered Wheelchair and Scooter Scheme on **0845 60 762 60** or [www.motability.co.uk](http://www.motability.co.uk).

### **British Forces Broadcasting Services (BFBS)**

BFBS Digital Radio was launched by BFBS on 20 Apr 09 and has UK wide coverage. See [www.bfbs.com](http://www.bfbs.com). BFBS also has radio and TV coverage overseas wherever UK Armed Forces are serving – a wide audience with a similar character. Through their Big Salute on-air fundraising effort they already support five service charities (BLESMA, St Dunstan's, Combat Stress, Headley Court and Veterans Aid) <http://bfbs-tv.com/big-salute-pa-290.php>. Their core audience is the 20-40 age group but they are keen to widen that towards the older range.

### **New Job-Finding Service for Veterans**

With funding by the MOD Veterans Challenge Fund, the Regular Forces Employment Association (RFEA) has introduced an outreach system that could provide support for around 7,000 Early Service Leavers (ESL) each year.

#### **RFEA**

The Electronic Customer Relationship Management (CRM) System, along with their own job board provided and funded by BRAINHUNTER, will enable the RFEA to provide a job-finding service to Service Personnel who are ineligible for the formal MOD resettlement service when making their transition from Service to civilian life. The system will engage with Regular personnel who have served for less than 4 years or have been discharged administratively or for disciplinary reasons, or are Reservists who have completed at least one operational tour.

The CRM system will establish a state of the art registration system which will allow RFEA Specialist Employment Consultants (SEC) to provide a job matching service, give direction to educational and vocational training programme's and provide an online skills identification programme. It will also, using online facilities, provide a guidance programme to assist personnel to develop their interviewing skills and hone their personal and life skills. In addition, personnel will receive counselling and help developing their CVs.

### **Northern Ireland Veterans Association**

Northern Ireland Veterans' Association have asked me to publicise their annual Service of Remembrance which takes place at the National Memorial Arboretum on Saturday 12 September 2009 at 11.30am. The Northern Ireland Veterans' Association (NIVA) remembers both those who laid down their lives and those who served in the province during the conflict and draw their members from all those who served the crown namely the Military, Police and Prison Service. For more details see their website [www.nivets.org.uk](http://www.nivets.org.uk).

### **Forces Discount Brochure**

Take a look at [www.forcesdiscounts-mod.co.uk](http://www.forcesdiscounts-mod.co.uk) for the wide-ranging discounts currently available to Service and ex-Service people. You can also subscribe to their regular newsletter. At the time of writing there were over 1,300 discounts available. Some require a certificate of eligibility (on the website) and MOD confirm that authorisation can be from your organisation to prove the individual had served.

# Housing

## Giving a Choice

Many Service Leavers choose to remain in the area where they have served. Changes to housing legislation in December 2008 now mean they will no longer be penalised for 'not having a local connection' when applying for social housing. The legislation applies to England and Wales, with guidance issued to Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords. It is hoped that Scotland will follow suit in the future.

## Priority Housing

In April, new guidance was issued to Local Authorities (England and Wales) advising that seriously injured personnel must be treated as priority when allocating modified housing. The decision is designed to help ensure better availability of specially adapted housing with features such as walk in bathrooms, wider door frames, lowered light switches, and entry slopes rather than steps.

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and War Pension payments for the most seriously disabled are now disregarded from the means test for Disabled Facility Grants issued by Local Authorities in England and Wales. The grants will help with the costs of adapting their homes.

The maximum available grant is £20,000.

### **ARE YOU IN A PRIORITY NEED CATEGORY**

There are a variety of applicants that are recognised as having a priority need for accommodation. As a veteran, legislation identifies this category in the following ways:

Under the Housing Act 1996 in England and Wales, priority need includes:

A person who is vulnerable as the result of having been a member of HM Regular Forces (England Only);

A person formerly serving in the Regular Armed Forces who has been homeless since leaving the Forces (Wales Only).

Under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987, priority need in Scotland includes:

A person having been discharged from any part of the Regular Armed Forces of the Crown.

## HELP FOR SERVICE LEAVERS & VETERANS

**Joint Service Housing Advice Office (JSHAO)** provides Service Personnel, Service Leavers and ex Service Personnel still occupying Service Family Accommodation as Irregular

Occupants with comprehensive advice on housing options including civilian housing information, advice and where possible placement into social housing. It educates and encourages Service personnel to make civilian housing provision throughout their Service career. It helps separated RN, Army and RAF families in the UK and those returning from overseas to find appropriate accommodation.

For further information or an application form contact JSHAO: **Tel: 01722 436572.**

**Website:** [www.mod.uk/jshao](http://www.mod.uk/jshao).

### **SPACES**

**Spaces, the Single Persons Accommodation Centre for the Ex Services** is designed to help single persons leaving the Service to find appropriate accommodation. It is an accommodation advice and placement service. The SPACES team will actively seek accommodation for Service personnel within the last six months of service and for ex-Service personnel who have recently been discharged. Through this service the project aims to reduce the likelihood of ex-service personnel becoming homeless or sleeping rough after discharge. For more information or to make a referral, please contact: **Tel: 01748 833797.**

**Email:** [spaces@echg.org.uk](mailto:spaces@echg.org.uk).

## OBITUARIES

We regret to inform members of the following deaths and offer sincere  
Condolences to all relatives and friends

Mrs F BASHFORD (Freda), 68 Bracken Rd, Tunbridge Wells, Kent  
Who died 16 January 2009

Mr D BOON, 4/7th DG 1959-61, 14 Quantoc Rd, Portishead, Somerset  
Who died 3 February 2009

Mr L CHARLESWORTH (Leonard) 4/7th DG 1941-45, Cedar Court, 27-29 Long St, Wigton  
Leics  
Who died 16 Apr 2009

Mr CLIFFORD-KINGSMILL 5INNIS DG, The Stables, Bramley Hill Mere, Wilts  
Who died 25 Dec 2008

Mr JFM DUNN (John) 5INNIS DG 1951-53, 5 The Hollies, Yeovil, Somerset  
Who died 12 February 2009

Mr JW GLBERT (Jack) 5INNIS DG 1935-46, 17 Bryn Celyn, Measteg, Glamorgan  
Who died 22 January 2009

Mr EL HICKS (Bill) 4/th DG 1942-47, Flat 3, Arbour Court, Court Drive, Cromer, Norfolk  
Who died 21 January 2009

Mr P YANZ (Peter) 5INNIS DG 1958-68, 2 Orchard Park, Hayden Road, Cheltenham, Glos  
Who died 25 March 2009

Mr JA KINCH (John) 5INNIS DG 1949-50, 40 Colebrook Rd, Swindon, Wilts  
Who died 17 February 2009

Maj P O'CONNER (Pat) 5INNIS DG 1976-89, Woodlands, Charlwood Rd, Ifield, Crawley  
Sussex  
Who died 7 February 2009

Mr TJ RODGERS (Thomas), 5INNIS DG 1962-67 3 Newton Place, High Heaton, Newcastle  
Upon Tyne  
Who died 1 August 2008

Mrs HR TOHILL 71 Poxon Rd Walsall Wood, Walsall, West Midlands  
Who died 7 November 2008

Maj JWA WOODALL MBE (Jonnie) 4/7th DG 1964-85, South Mytton House, Shrewsbury,  
Shropshire  
Who died 3 April 2009

Mr LR (Lance) Batty 5 INNIS DG 1957-59, 9 Alpine Close, Viola Rd, Stocksbridge, Sheffield  
Who died 16 March 2009

Mr G Beighton (Geoff) 5INNIS DG 1950-52, 9 Silverdale Close, Branton, Doncaster  
Who died 6 May 2009

Mr Phillips (John) 5INNIS DG 1963-69, 94 Jamestown Ave, Inchicore, Dublin 8, Eire  
Who died 15 May 2009

Mr Morris (Tommy) 5INNIS DG 1936-47, Cemetery Lodge, Vivien Rd, Fenton, Stoke on  
Trent, Staffs  
Who died on 19 May 2009

Mr Alexander (Alex) 5INNIS DG 1942-60, 22 Gladstone St, Bedminster, Bristol, Avon  
Who died on 22 May 2009

Mr R Bird (Ron) 5INNIS DG 1946-52, 17 Maumbury Square, Weymouth Ave, Dorchester  
Who died on 26 May 2009

Mr A Ward (Wranger) 4th/7th DG 1978-93, 32 Raydale, Hemlington, Middlesborough  
Who died June 2009

Mr R Eagles (Dick) 4<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> DG 1941-46, 11 Hope St, York  
Who died on 18 June 2009

## BRANCH NOTICES

### **Home Headquarters**

#### **Christmas Cards**

This year's Christmas card is on sale now; cost 35p plus P&P, its proving to be a very popular design this year and depicts 4 cavalry other ranks going about their Christmas duties circa 1880, taken from a specially commissioned watercolour by CA Collins

#### **Regimental Journals**

HHQ holds a number of back journals from amalgamation onwards, if you would like to fill in the gaps of a collection or even start a collection they are available for a donation to The Association plus the cost of P&P. Copies of the 2008 journal are also available cost £7 which includes P&P.

#### **Obituaries**

It's a sad fact of life that the nominal roll of the War and National Service generation of old comrades is getting ever shorter. As a result it is getting more difficult to get obituary information for inclusion into the journal. HHQ would be very grateful to receive any information no matter how little on those included in this newsletter's obituary page. These can be emailed to either [hhq@rdgmuseum.org.uk](mailto:hhq@rdgmuseum.org.uk) or of course by post to the address at the top of the newsletter.

### **Northern Ireland**

The Inniskillings BBQ at Ballinamallard Hunting and Fishing club Co Fermanagh will be held on Sunday 26 July, for further details please ring Oliver Breen on 02866327272.

The annual Balaklava Ball will be held on 24 October at the TAVR centre in Enniskillen. The cost is £20 per person, which will include the meal and entertainment. For further information please ring Tommy Wier on 02886323631.

### **Oxford**

The annual Blenheim evening will be held 27 November at Falklands house, Oxford OUTC at 2000hrs for further details please contact John Walker on 01865 863235 or 07860 278514.

The next branch meeting will be held in Falklands House on 14 September; 1930hrs for 2000hrs. If you live in the area please come along and meet former colleagues and maybe even some new friends who you will have a lot in common with.

### **Creully Club**

The AGM of the Creully Club will be held at the Ivy House and Scott's Restaurant, High Street Marlborough, SN8 11HJ (01672 515201) on Saturday 7 November at 1500hrs. This will be followed by the reunion dinner at 1900hrs. On Sunday 8 November there will be a British Legion remembrance day parade assembling in the High Street, the 4<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Royal Dragoon Guards banner will be on parade. Further details including accommodation information is available from Cecil Newton, 1 Grasshills Lane, Aldbourne, Marlborough Wilts SN8 2EH. Tel: 01672 540356, Email: [jcnewton@freeuk.com](mailto:jcnewton@freeuk.com)

### **York Branch**

The branch dinner last year was very successful with the pipers and a good turnout; many came for the first time along with the regulars. It was to have the Colonel of The Regiment in attendance. This year's dinner will be on Friday 23 October at the Beech Wood Close Hotel.

The cost and further information is available from: Capt (Retd) Barrie Grimshaw, 11a calf Croft, Whitwell, Worksop, Notts. Tel: 01909 726362. Email: [mandb1009@talktalk.net](mailto:mandb1009@talktalk.net)

### **West Yorkshire Branch**

The inaugural branch function was held at the Irish Centre, Leeds, in March. It was a great success and was attended by over a hundred old comrades; the guest of honour was The Colonel of The Regiment. Next on the agenda is a visit to the Theakston Brewery near Ripon sometime in August, dates and details will appear on the forum. Numbers are restricted to about 20 so don't delay! The next reunion event will be held once again in the Irish Centre on Saturday 17 April 2010. Further details can be obtained from Joe Monks on 0113 2164348.

And Finally.....

**Diary Dates**

JLR (RAC) Old Boy's Reunion Bovington 4/6 Sep 09  
Oxford Branch 14 Sep 09  
London & SE Branch 1 Oct 09  
York Branch Balaklava Dinner 23 Oct 09  
Balaklava Dinner Enniskillen 24 Oct 09  
Field of Remembrance Westminster Abbey 5 Nov 09  
Creully Club Reunion Marlborough 7/8 Nov 09  
Regimental Officers Dinner 26 Nov 09  
Oxford Branch Blenheim Dinner 27 Nov 09

**Enniskillen Branch**

The plans to form an Enniskillen Branch of The Regimental Association are forging ahead thanks to the hard work of a number of people living in and around the city that gave its name to one of our antecedent regiments. For a branch to be successful it needs members and volunteers to hold officer positions in the branch. If you want to be a part of the branch please contact the following:  
Mr Eddie Roofe  
Tel: 02866 327844 or 07763593884

**Keith Zambelli Memorial Trophy 2009**

The Keith Zambelli Memorial Golf trophy competition was held on 26 June at the Catterick Golf club and afterwards in The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. A full report will appear in the next journal. The results were as follows: Winner Steve Eyre, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Dick Sealey, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Andy Robinson. The best guest was Peter Elliot, Longest Drive Graham Hague and nearest the pin was Ben Gunn. Matt Rowley won the booby prize with the DAMCON prize going to John Torley. Details of the amount raised for cancer charities will be announced in the journal.

**Newsletter**

The newsletter is aimed at everyone across the association and is delivered literally all round the world. The content is very much as it has been for years, the CO's notes on the serving regiment, some welfare issues that are brought to our attention from various welfare sources, obituaries, diary dates and branch notices. If there are thoughts out there about what else could be included (or taken out) please get in contact with HHQ. If you receive this by post and have email facilities, please let HHQ know, this will reduce the burden on the association's postage cost.

**Museum**

If you have visited the museum recently you will be aware that it is in need of an overhaul. At the time of going to press HHQ is recruiting a museum assistant that will enhance our capability to move forward. It is also the intention of HHQ to recruit volunteers to assist with digitising the archives, a long laborious but extremely interesting and revealing task. If anyone reading this feel they would like to assist please get in touch.

## Museum sales

Further details and a full list can be found at

[www.hhq@rdgmuseum.org.uk](mailto:www.hhq@rdgmuseum.org.uk)

Blazer badges all regiments	from £4.50 to £9.50
Blazer Buttons sets all regiments	£28
Playing Cards The Royal Dragoon Guards	£3.50
Christmas Cards	.35p
Cuff Links all regiments	£8
Ice Buckets all regiments	£30
Plaque all regiments	£18
Postcards all antecedent regiments	from .35p to .50p
Prints all antecedent regiments	£1
Tie 4 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> DG	£8
Tie 5INNIS DG Striped	£7.50
Tie 5INNIS DG Cypher	£7.50
Tie The Royal Dragoon Guards	£5.50
Visitor book The Royal Dragoon Guards	£10
2009 Journal	£7 (includes P&P)
Car Badge RDG, 4/7 DG or 5 Innis DG	£30 (includes P&P)